

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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5 First Named Inventor: Yukihiro Asa  
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15 Examiner: Jay M. Patidar  
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July 15, 2009

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Applicant files this **Preliminary Amendment** along with a **Request for Continued Examination** in response to the Final Office Action dated April 17, 2009, for the above-referenced patent application.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Claims** begin on page 7 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 10 of this paper.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees due and credit any overpayments to the Glenn Patent Group Deposit Account No. 07-1445, Customer No. 22862 (Order No. SAWA0007).